

**1: Dvarsamudri was the language spoken in \_\_\_\_\_.**

**Answer:** Karnataka

**2: Into how many periods does the British historians divided the history of India?**

**Answer:** three periods

**3: India got its name in the 13th century. True/ False**

**Answer:** True

**4: In which century the teachings of the holy Quran first came to India?**

**Answer:** 7th century

**5: According to Sanskrit Prashasti, the eastern limit of Giasuddin Balban's Empire was extended to Bihar. True/ False**

**Answer:** False

**6: Name the language that was considered as the elite class language.**

**Answer:** Sanskrit

**7: Name the two sects of Islam.**

**Answer:** Shia and sunni

**8: Who is Cartographer?**

**Answer:** Cartographer is the one who makes maps and analyses them and thus helps us in understanding the spread of trade and empire.

**9: Who was Al-Idrisi?**

**Answer:** An Arabic geographer

**10: Minhaj-us-Siraj used the term 'Hindustan' to refer the areas of Punjab, Haryana and \_\_\_\_\_.**

**Answer:** Doab of Ganga-Yamuna

**11: Babar used the term 'Hindustan' to specify geography, flora, fauna and cultures of the entire Indian subcontinent. True/ False**

**Answer:** True

**12: What does the term 'foreigner' meant in the past?**

**Answer:** The one who was not a part of a specific social unit like village or city etc

**13: Name some sources that gave information about our past.**

**Answer:** coins, inscriptions, accounts of travellers, art and architecture

**14: When did Ziyauddin Barani first wrote his chronicle?**

**Answer:** 1356

**15: Amir Khusrau described Mabari as the language of \_\_\_\_\_.**

**Answer:** Tamil Nadu

**16: What is archives?**

**Answer:** Archives are the place where all old and new documents and manuscripts are kept.

**17: In early medieval period, manuscripts were copied by \_\_\_\_\_.**

**Answer:** Hands

**18: Between 700 to 1750, various socio-cultural changes took place, what was the important reasons for this?**

**Answer:** Interaction with people from different parts of the world

**19: Early medieval period saw worship of new \_\_\_\_\_.**

**Answer:** Deities

**20: Who divided the history of India into Hindu period, Muslim period and British period in 19th century?**

**Answer:** British historians

**21: Name the paintings that were used in manuscripts.**

**Answer:** miniature paintings

**22: Babar used the term 'Hindustan' in political sense. True/False**

**Answer:** false

**23: Guillaume de l'Isle belonged to \_\_\_\_\_.**

**Answer:** France

**24: The 'Persian wheel' was used in \_\_\_\_\_.**

**Answer:** Irrigation

**25: What was the meaning of term Shikaste?**

**Answer:** a writing style

**26: Name the Sultan of Delhi, who was praised in the prashasti written in Sanskrit.**

**Answer:** Balban

**27: Who were the Ulemas?**

**Answer:** Theologians and Jurists

**28: Name the state where Awadhi is predominantly spoken.**

**Answer:** Uttar Pradesh

**29: Name the state where Dvarsamudri is spoken.**

**Answer:** Karnataka

**30: Ajnabi is a \_\_\_\_\_ word.**

**Answer:** Persian

**31: Name the Hindi word used to describe a foreigner.**

**Answer:** Pardesi

**32: The learned theologians and jurists in Islam are known as \_\_\_\_\_.**

**Answer:** Ulama

**33: Name the famous poet who used the word 'Hind' for the first time.**

**Answer:** Amir Khusrau

**34: According to Khusrau, Telangani is spoken in the state of \_\_\_\_\_.**

**Answer:** Andhra Pradesh

**35: Name the eastern extent of the empire of Ghiyassuddin Balban.**

**Answer:** Bengal

**36: Name the state where Ma Bari language is spoken.**

**Answer:** Tamil Nadu

**37: Why forest dwellers were forced to migrate?**

**Answer:** due to the change in their habitat.

**38: What was the ancient name of Bengal?**

**Answer:** Gauda

**39: Name the book written by Shihabuddin Umari.**

**Answer:** Masalik al- Absar fi Mamalik al- Amsar

**40: Tarikh-i-Firuz Shahi, a major work on medieval India was written by \_\_\_\_\_.**

**Answer:** Ziauddin Barani

**41: Name the warrior clan that became popular between 8th and 14th centuries.**

**Answer:** Rajputs

**42: Define a patron?**

**Answer:** An influential wealthy individual who supports another person – an artist, a crafts person, a learned man, or a noble is called a patron.

**43: Who made Maps in 1154 AD?**

**Answer:** The Arab geographer Al-Idrisi made maps in 1154 AD.

**44. What does a Cartographer do?**

**Answer:** A Cartographer makes maps.

**45. What are the two main sects of Islam?**

**Answer:** The two main sects of Islam are Shia and Sunni.

**46. Who was Al-Idrisi?**

**Answer:** Al-Idrisi was the Arab geographer who made map in 1154 CE.

**47. What do you mean by archive?**

**Answer:** Archive is a place where documents and manuscripts are stored.

**48. Who was called the patron?**

**Answer:** A patron is an influential, wealthy individual who supports another person – an artiste, a craftsperson, a learned man, or a noble.

**49. Who used the term ‘Hindustan’ for the first time and when?**

**Answer:** Minhaj-i-Siraj, a chronicler used the term ‘Hindustan’ for the first time in the thirteenth century.

**50. Who were scribes?**

**Answer:** Scribes were the people who copied manuscripts by hand before the invention of automatic printing.

[\*\*Short Extra Questions and Answers\*\*](#)

**1. How did scribes copy down the manuscripts? What was its drawback?**

**Answer:** There was no printing press in those days so scribes copied manuscripts by hand. As scribes copied manuscripts, they also introduced small changes – a word here, a sentence there.

**2. List some of the technological changes associated with this period.**

**Answer:** Some of the technological changes associated with this period were the Persian wheel in irrigation, the spinning wheel in weaving, and firearms in combat.

**3. What does the term pan-regional empire mean?**

**Answer:** Pan regional empire means empire spanning diverse regions. Dynasties like the Cholas, Khaljis, Tughluqs and Mughals were able to build an empire that was pan-regional.

**4. Which century marked the beginning of the medieval period? Why?**

**Answer:** The eighth century is taken as the beginning of the medieval period because society, economy, politics, religion and culture underwent many changes during this century.

**5. What do you know about jati panchayat?**

**Answer:** Jatis framed their own rules and regulations to manage the conduct of their members. These regulations were enforced by an assembly of elders, described in some areas as the jati panchayat.

**6. What was the extent of Delhi Sultan Ghiyasuddin Balban's empire?**

**Answer:** Delhi Sultan Ghiyasuddin Balban's empire stretched from Bengal (Gauda) in the east to Ghazni (Gajjana) in Afghanistan in the west and included all of south India (Dravida).

**7. How Brahmanas earned lot of respect in the society?**

**Answer:** Their knowledge of Sanskrit texts earned the Brahmanas a lot of respect in society. Their dominant position was consolidated by the support of their patrons – new rulers searching for prestige.

### **8. How do Sunni and Shia Muslims differ?**

**Answer:** There were the Shia Muslims who believed that the Prophet Muhammad's son-in-law, Ali, was the legitimate leader of the Muslim community, and the Sunni Muslims who accepted the authority of the early leaders (Khalifas) of the community, and the succeeding Khalifas.

### **9. How are travelogues an important literary source?**

**Answer:** Many foreign travellers visited India during the medieval period. Their writing or travelogues gives lot of information about the places they visit and the people they met. They give a detailed account about political trade, events and commerce of that place.

### **10. Define the following terms.**

Numismatics, Epigraphy, Manuscript and Medieval Period

**Answer:** Numismatics – The study of coins is called Numismatics.

Epigraphy – Study of inscription is called epigraphy.

Manuscript – The original script written by the author in his/her own handwriting.

Medieval Period – A period of Indian History from 700AD to 1750AD.

### **11. How have historians divided the history during the middle of the 19th century?**

**Answer:** In the middle of the nineteenth century British historians divided the history of India into three periods: "Hindu", "Muslim" and "British". This division was based on the idea that the religion of rulers was the only important historical change, and that there



were no other significant developments – in the economy, society or culture.

**12. Mention the manner in which history was divided by historians during the middle of the 19<sup>th</sup> century.**

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**13. Who was considered a “foreigner” in the past?**

**Answer:** In the medieval period a “foreigner” was any stranger who appeared, say in a given village, someone who was not a part of that society or culture. A city-dweller, therefore, might have regarded a forest-dweller as a “foreigner”, but two peasants living in the same village were not foreigners to each other, even though they may have had different religious or caste backgrounds.

**14. Compare the value of paper in the thirteenth and fourteenth century?**

**Answer:** Value of paper in the thirteenth and fourteenth century

- In the middle of the thirteenth century a scholar wanted to copy a book. But he did not have enough paper. So he washed the writing off a manuscript he did not want, dried the paper and used it.
- A century later, if you bought some food in the market you could be lucky and have the shopkeeper wrap it for you in some paper.

**15. Why was there a dramatic increase in the variety of textual records between 700 to 1750 CE?**

**Answer:** During this period, paper became cheaper and widely available. This resulted in a dramatic increase in the variety of textual records between 700 to 1750 CE. People started using paper to write holy texts, chronicles of rulers, letters and

teachings of saints, petitions and judicial records and for registers of accounts and taxes.

### Long Extra Questions and Answers

**1. Which group became important during medieval period? Enumerate various changes which this group has undergone.**

**Answer:** One group of people who became important in this period were the Rajputs, a name derived from “Rajaputra”, the son of a ruler. Between the eighth and fourteenth centuries the term was applied more generally to a group of warriors who claimed Kshatriya caste status. The term included not just rulers and chieftains but also soldiers and commanders who served in the armies of different monarchs all over the subcontinent.

**2. Why do you think that there were many literary sources of medieval period?**

**Answer:** The number and variety of textual records increased dramatically during this period. They slowly displaced other types of available information. Through this period paper gradually became cheaper and more widely available. People used it to write holy texts, chronicles of rulers, letters and teachings of saints, petitions and judicial records, and for registers of accounts and taxes. Manuscripts were collected by wealthy people, rulers, monasteries and temples. They were placed in libraries and archives.

**3. What do you know about chronicles?**

**Answer:** A chronicle is a record of the rule of the kings and life at the court. Most kings had court chroniclers who wrote in detail about what happened during their reign. Some important chronicles of the medieval period are:

- Rajatarangini by Kalhana, which is a history of the king of Kashmir.
- Tarikh-i-Firoz Shahi by Zia-ud-din Barani, which describes the history of the Sultans of Delhi till the reign of Firoz Shah Tughluq.

- Tarikh-e-Ferishta by Ferishta, which is a record of the history of the Delhi Sultans, from the time of Turks till the seventeenth century.

**4. Our information about the medieval period is much more than the ancient period. Give reason.**

**Answer:** The number and variety of textual records increased dramatically during this period. They slowly displaced other types of available information. Through this period paper gradually became cheaper and more widely available. People used it to write holy texts, chronicles of rulers, letters and teachings of saints, petitions and judicial records, and for registers of accounts and taxes. Manuscripts were collected by wealthy people, rulers, monasteries and temples. They were placed in libraries and archives.

**5. What are the archaeological sources of the medieval period?**

**Answer:** Archaeological sources of the medieval period are:

- Inscriptions – Writings or drawings found on stones, pillars, clay or copper tablets and walls of caves, temples and monuments.
- Archaeological remains and Monuments – Ancient ruins, remains and monuments recovered as a result of excavation and exploration.
- Coins – Ancient coins were mostly made of gold, silver, copper or lead. Some of the coins contain religious and legendary symbols which throw light on the culture of that time. Coins also contain the figures of kings and gods.

**6. What are the difficulties historians face in using manuscripts?**

**Answer:** The difficulties historians face in using manuscripts:

- There was no printing press in those days so scribes copied manuscripts by hand which was sometime difficult to read and understand.
- As scribes copied manuscripts, they also introduced small changes – a word here, a sentence there. These small differences grew over centuries of copying.

- Original manuscript of the author is rarely found today. So, they have to depend upon the copies made by later scribes. As a result historians have to read different manuscript versions of the same text to guess what the author had originally written.

### **7. What were some of the major religious developments during this period?**

**Answer:** Some of the major religious developments during this period were:

- It was during this period that important changes occurred in Hinduism. These included the worship of new deities, the construction of temples by royalty and the growing importance of Brahmanas, the priests, as dominant groups in society.
- There was emergence of the idea of bhakti among the people.
- This was also the period when new religions appeared in the subcontinent. Merchants and migrants first brought the teachings of the holy Quran to India in the seventh century.
- Many rulers were patrons of Islam and the ulama - learned theologians and jurists.

### **8. Why are coins and inscriptions important for the study of medieval period?**

**Answer:** Coins are important for study as -

- It tells us about the reigning periods of kings and gives us dates of important political events.
- It tells us about the economy of the kingdom and trade with other regions.

Inscriptions are useful source of history because -

- They record royal proclamations, religious instruction and gifts given by rulers to temples and villages.
- It tells us about the important events in the king's life, about the people of particular time and even narrates the achievement of king.

### **9. Write a short note on foreign travellers who visited India during Medieval Period.**

**Answer:** Foreign travellers who visited India during Medieval Period

- Ibn Batuta- He came from Morocco in the 14<sup>th</sup> century AD wrote about the reign on Mohammad-bin-Tughlaq.
- Nicole Conti – He came from Venice and gave an account of the kingdom of Vijaynagar and its war with Bahmani kings.
- Abdur Razzaq – He came from Persia and visited the kingdom of Vijaynagar.
- William Hawkins – He came from England and visited the court of Jahangir. His narrative describes the magnificence of the Mughal court.
- Al-Beruni – He came from Central Asia in the 11<sup>th</sup> century AD and wrote Tahqiq-i-Hind giving a wealth of information on the culture and economy of medieval India.

#### **10. How were the affairs of jatis regulated?**

**Answer:** Affairs of jatis were regulated in the following ways:

- As society became more differentiated, people were grouped into jatis or sub-castes and ranked on the basis of their backgrounds and their occupations.
- Ranks were not fixed permanently, and varied according to the power, influence and resources controlled by members of the jati. The status of the same jati could vary from area to area.
- Jatis framed their own rules and regulations to manage the conduct of their members. These regulations were enforced by an assembly of elders, described in some areas as the jati panchayat. But jatis were also required to follow the rules of their villages.
- Several villages were governed by a chieftain. Together they were only one small unit of a state.

#### **11. What are the Literary Sources of History of Medieval India?**

**Answer:** Literary Sources of History of Medieval India are:

- Biography – It is an account of someone's life written by someone else. Some important biographies of medieval period are Prithviraj Raso by Chandbardai, Akbarnama by Abu Fazal.

- Autobiography – It is a self-written account of the life of oneself. Important autobiography of medieval period are Futuhat-i-Firoz by Firozshah Tughlaq, Baburnama by Babur and Tuzuk-i-Jahangiri by Jahangir.
- Travelogue – It is written account about the places visited by or experiences of a traveller. Example: Al-beruni wrote Tahqiq-i-hind, Ibn Batuta wrote Rihla.
- Chronicle – It is a factual written account of important or historical events in the order of their occurrence. Example: Rajtarangini by Kalhan, Tughluqnama by Amir Khusrau.

**12. In what ways has the meaning of the term “Hindustan” changed over the centuries?**

**Answer:** Meaning of the term ‘Hindustan’ changed over the centuries.

- In the thirteenth century by Minhaj-i-Siraj, a chronicler who wrote in Persian, he meant the areas of Punjab, Haryana and the lands between the Ganga and Yamuna. He used the term in a political sense for lands that were a part of the dominions of the Delhi Sultan. The areas included in this term shifted with the extent of the Sultanate but the term never included south India.
- In fourteenth-century poet Amir Khusrau used the word “Hind”.
- In the early sixteenth century while using this term meant the geography, the fauna and the culture of the inhabitants of the subcontinent.
- While the idea of a geographical and cultural entity like “India” did exist, the term “Hindustan” did not carry the political and national meanings which we associate with it today.

**13. Compare the map made by Al-Idris and that of French cartographer.**

**Answer:** Map made by Al-Idris (Map 1)

- Map 1 was made by the Arab geographer Al-Idrisi.
- It was made in 1154 CE (Christian era).
- In this map south India is where we would expect to find north India and Sri Lanka is the island at the top.

- The names of places are marked in Arabic and there are some popular places of Uttar Pradesh like Kanauj (spelt as Qanauj).

Map made by French cartographer (Map 2)

- Map 2 was made by a French cartographer.
- It was made in the 1720s, i.e. 600 years after Map 1.
- This map seems more familiar to us and the coastal areas in particular are surprisingly detailed.
- It was used by the European sailors and merchants on their voyages.

#### **14. How do historians divide the past into periods? Do they face any problems in doing so?**

**Answer:** Historians look to economic and social factors to characterise the major elements of different moments of the past.

Problem faced by historians in dividing the past into periods are:

(i) These thousand years of Indian history witnessed considerable change. After all, the sixteenth and eighteenth centuries were quite different from the eighth or the eleventh. Therefore, describing the entire period as one historical unit is not without its problems.

(ii) Moreover, the “medieval” period is often contrasted with the “modern” period. “Modernity” carries with it a sense of material progress and intellectual advancement. This seems to suggest that the medieval period was lacking in any change whatsoever. But ofcourse we know this was not the case.

(iii) During these thousand years the societies of the subcontinent were transformed often and economies in several regions reached a level of prosperity that attracted the interest of European trading companies.